



# Prophecy in Perspective

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An email newsletter

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## Jesus Christ, A Divider of Men

***Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. (Luke 12:51-53, KJV)***

Ecumenical leaders in recent years have been going to a lot of effort to unite all denominations and faiths into one great global church and a single grand world religion. Along with the general ecumenical movements, there are two key trends today moving the church toward a global religion, these are the Emerging Church and Seeker Sensitive Church movements.

Ecumenicists are working with these Emerging and Seeker Sensitive movements through a growing number of denominational leaders who are seeking to re-unify the Protestant with the Roman Catholic and Eastern-Orthodox churches. These efforts today are subtle but systematic. A deliberate global convergence of many denominations today is occurring by relatively small steps. This is happening through such subtle means as making worship services including preaching, music, and prayer techniques more doctrinally vague yet more extremely "spiritual" in form. Psychological, emotional and contemplative methods are being utilized to persuade Christians that they should long for unity and acceptance of all spiritual views and life style preferences.

Another trendy method of unification is through the creating of new creeds that are doctrinally agreeable to the different denominations and sects. Church and Christian leaders are encouraged to sign these documents to add credibility to the movement. These creeds, or "confessions" are tools to advance the ecumenical effort for the eventual joining together of denominations and sects for common cause. Unity for global, social and spiritual change, instead of sound doctrine and winning lost souls to Christ, has become the main thing!

As a result, actual false teaching is being sent forth by growing numbers of Emerging and Seeker Sensitive men and women preachers whose unbiblical reasoning's sell books, CDs, and DVDs by the millions. Even movies, like *The Shack*, promote New Age Mysticism to millions of vulnerable people who are not being taught truth from the pulpits of many churches in America. The overarching cry by many in Christian leadership is for unity. This demand for unity is generally at the expense of biblical truth and of Jesus Christ Himself.

Jesus warned: ***"For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required...(Luke 12:48)."*** This is why we have received from God an entire book called the Bible. Those rejecting and twisting the clear

doctrines of the Bible will have much to answer for in the coming Bema and Great White Throne judgments. This will be the basis upon which the coming Judge of the earth, the Lord Jesus Christ will assess our faithfulness to Himself (see 2 Corinthians 5:10, Bema Judgment; Revelation 20:11-13, Great White Throne Judgment).

Jesus did not come to help man set up a global denomination, sect, cult or religion! But many use this human yearning to advance their own cult teachings. For instance, Science Fiction writer, L. Ron Hubbard, made up an entire system called Scientology. Through this cult today, thousands of deceived followers, believing in reincarnation, work to unify, purify, or "clear," the planet. Scientology is succeeding only to put tens of thousands of devoted followers under hopeless and demonic bondage. Biblically, world peace and true unity will come to the earth only through the coming of the "Prince of Peace," Jesus Christ, Who will one day return to establish His Kingdom from Jerusalem.

Many have attempted to characterize Jesus Christ as a great unifier of mankind. But Jesus himself said: ***"Suppose ye that I have come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division (Luke 12:51)."*** Jesus knew the teaching that salvation comes only through faith in Him would cause great divisions between men and nations. In that sense, He came to bring division.

If you have bought into the globalist mentality of these latter days, and consider that you are a Christian, you had better rethink your view of Jesus if you believe He came to unite all men regardless of their religious or moral views. Jesus came to divide people from their sins through dying for them upon the cross. Jesus came to divide truth from error through the Word of God. Jesus came to divide light from darkness through being the light that has come into the world (John 1:9).

Jesus' true teachings bring people to a decision as to whom they will follow and how they will live. As Christians who believe in Jesus Christ we should seek to divide off from all those who are anti-Semitic and anti-Israel. I am so happy to see that the United States under the pro-Israel leadership of President Donald Trump, has separated from the anti-Israel United Nations organization known as UNESCO. The following article describes the reasons for this latest action on the part of the US to affirm its support for Israel.

President Trump has officially declared that the United States is withdrawing from UNESCO — the Education, Scientific, and Cultural branch of the United Nations, in response to its continued anti-America, anti-Israel behavior, reports WND.

UNESCO is an extremely corrupt organization, but the United States has been dealing with them for years. They recognize Palestine as a full member and even went completely insane by declaring the Cave of the Patriarchs, purported to be the burial place of the Biblical Abraham, to be a "Palestinian Heritage Site" and the birthplace of the Jewish people — an obvious slap in the face of Israel and those who support them.

That isn't even the latest move UNESCO has made to insult Israel. They've gone so far as to declare the Temple Mount "Islamic," the ultimate defacing of rightful Jewish history.

"To refer to Hebron as 'Islamic' denies thousands of years of Jewish history as well as Christian ties to the site," said Mat Staver, chairman of Liberty Counsel, in response to UNESCO's decision to rename Jewish historical sites. "The biblical patriarchs Abraham and Isaac, as well as the matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca and Leah are believed to be buried there, and to deny that is another move toward the Palestinian Authority and Hamas renaming the entire land to Palestine and denying Israel's right to exist."

This is a clear demonstration that our president is doing exactly what he promised, putting America First. The vast majority of Americans support Israel and are ashamed that we have been forced to cooperate with a globalist organization that collaborates with an evil, terrorist-run state.

A statement issued by the State Department spokesperson Heather Nauert announced that Trump's move is going to be carried out in 2018:

*"On October 12, 2017, the Department of State notified UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova of the U.S. decision to withdraw from the organization and to seek to establish a permanent observer mission to UNESCO. This decision was not taken lightly, and reflects U.S. concerns with mounting arrears at UNESCO, the need for fundamental reform in the organization, and continuing anti-Israel bias at UNESCO.*

*"The United States indicated to the Director General its desire to remain engaged with UNESCO as a non-member observer state in order to contribute U.S. views, perspectives, and expertise on some of the important issues undertaken by the organization, including the protection of world heritage, advocating for press freedoms, and promoting scientific collaboration and education.*

*"Pursuant to Article II(6) of the UNESCO Constitution, U.S. withdrawal will take effect on December 31, 2018. The United States will remain a full member of UNESCO until that time."*

Unlike Obama, who sold out our country to the interests of the U.N. time and again, Trump has never let up the heat on the globalist organization and their hatred of Israel. (Tea Party.Org., October 12, 2017)

We can see the importance of division when it comes to the U.S. pulling out of UNESCO. The Bible teaches the importance for individuals who trust in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior to divide off from sin and evil. So many who do not know the Lord confuse guns with evil and conflate people with their possessions (i.e.: guns) as in the Las Vegas shooter's slaughter with guns and determine therefore guns are responsible for all the death and carnage. The reality is that the man who did this horrible act was sold out to sin, rebellion, the devil and evil spirits. The political and even "Christian" progressives of our time do not believe in the inherited sin of man, therefore they blame guns and not the man himself. They deny that Adam was an historical figure who fell from grace, and so passed the evil of sin down to us today. The Las Vegas shooter was demonically driven to kill, and he chose to do so because of his own evil, sinful and depraved heart.

For those who are willing to face reality, it is easy to understand that there must be a literal devil. The devil and the demons make up a highly organized force of wickedness in the world today (Ephesians 6:10-18). The Bible calls the devil ***"the prince of the power of the air...the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience" (Eph 2:2, NASB).***

When people do evil things today, people run to the psychologists and the political pundits for answers. However, their answers most often avoid the plain reality that evil powers are arising today just as predicted in the Bible. But having rejected the Bible as God's Word, they put blame on the wrong things, usually to advance their own progressive agendas.

They will often blame guns for murders, cars for global warming and thus for storms, oil fracking for earthquakes, America's pro-Israel policy for the rise of Islamic terror, and so on. People who avoid the reality of God, and of the truth of the Bible will always give wrong reasons for the problems in the world. They will

offer the wrong cure. The call is usually for social change through a new politically correct morality that is generally anti-Israel, anti-Christian, anti-America and anti-family.

Growing numbers of preachers today are jumping on to the social change dump truck which is putting the "land fill" of erroneous solutions into the gaping hole of real questions. The demonic teachings today from among these world-changing wannabes consist of telling young preachers to stop talking about the Bible, be open to homosexual marriage, don't talk about sin, and above all, avoid the topic of Bible prophecy! These are often the social change maxims of the Emerging and Seeker Sensitive Church.

A simple way to determine whether a minister or Christian leader is a part of the so called Emerging and Seeker Sensitive Church is whether he talks about the five "S's": Scripture, Sin, Savior, Salvation and Second Coming! If you are not hearing these subjects, it probably means the leader does not believe in them! Time to seek a Bible teaching church! This is why Jesus said He came to divide! Consistent with the Lord's teaching, Paul said: "**Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you**" (2 Corinthians 6:17).

Remember that we cannot know the day or hour of the Lord's return (Matthew 24:36), but we can understand the times that we live in today. Romans 13:11 says: "**And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed (NASB).**" Many in today's Emerging and Seeker Sensitive churches, just like the Pharisees and religious leaders of Jesus' time, reject the sound doctrine that Jesus taught. Many question whether the Bible is completely true, or whether Adam was a real person, or whether sin is mankind's real problem. The Bible predicts that there will be many in the latter days that will have "**a form of godliness,**" but will deny its power (2 Timothy 3:5). They will subtly reject the need to believe that Jesus was born of a virgin, and that He died on the cross to offer an unlimited atonement for the sin of all the lost. The Pharisees divided off from the real Jesus of the Bible because they rejected the Scriptures and replaced them with their own social agenda. Years ago, J.C. Ryle commented on the division that is sure to happen when the real Jesus and His gospel is taught:

Thousands of well-meaning persons now-a-days are continually crying out for more "unity" among Christians. To attain this they are ready to sacrifice almost anything, and to throw overboard even sound doctrine, if, by so doing, they can secure peace. Such people would do well to remember that even gold may be bought too dear, and that peace is useless if purchased at the expense of truth. ...It is not God's glorious remedy (for sin) which is in fault, but the diseased nature of Adam's race, which, like a self-willed child, refuses the medicine provided for its cure. So long as some men and women will not repent and believe, and some will, there must needs be division. To be surprised at it is the height of folly. The very existence of division is one proof of Christ's foresight, and of the truth of Christianity... (One day, Jesus will return and establish world peace through His earthly Kingdom rule) For that blessed time let us wait, and watch, and pray. The night is far spent. The day is at hand. Our divisions are but for a little season. Our peace shall endure to eternity. (Expository Thoughts on the Gospels, Ryle, J.C., Vol 3, p. 98, Luke 12:49-53)

Of course, it is Jesus' desire that families, churches, and nations be united, but this is possible only under the condition of accepting Jesus Christ and living by the truths that He teaches through the Bible. Saving faith in Jesus Christ and willingness to receive Him as the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6), will result in

amazing wholeness and unity in our lives, especially as we divide off from unbelief, sin, and rebellion. The division that Jesus brings actually comes through the unbelief of those who reject Him and His Word.

Jesus Christ is the answer to family division, church disunity, national and international unrest and wars. Yet one cannot love both Jesus Christ and also love the world and its ways! 1 John 2:15 says: **"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."**

Disunity and discord comes when the heart of a man or woman is divided (James 1:8). This divided heart gives the enemy opportunity to defeat us. But trusting the Lord with our whole heart by simple faith will bring true peace. By the Lord's grace, this life and peace through Christ will grow into real and lasting wholeness and unity, both personally and among God's people.

True unity is that which comes only when our alienation from God through sin is overcome by the saving power of Jesus Christ through faith in Him. **"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).** Through faith in His sacrifice on the cross and resurrection from the grave, He will forgive you. And through that same forgiveness, by the power of the indwelling Christ, you can forgive others! While Jesus came to divide, He really came to separate us from all that destroys us, and to bring us, by faith, into the wholeness and unity with God that only His grace can bestow. **"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).**

In these last days, we need to watch for the Lord's return. As we watch for Him we should not seek the false unity of mere social change. Nor should we join in with the fake unity of the Ecumenical, Emerging or Seeker Sensitive crowd. We should hold on to the truth that, by faith, we are in a real relationship with the Lord and His people. We should also walk in victory and hold on to the joy and expectation of the soon coming Lord Jesus Christ!

**"For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will."**

Matthew 24:44

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